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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 2, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 27 totaled an estimated 17.7 billion ton-miles, 5.8 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 39 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 659.4 billion ton-miles, virtually the same as the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 27 totaled 396,562, almost the same as the corresponding week of last year, and 0.2 percent lower than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.3 percent in the West, and down 3.3 percent in the East, and 3.6 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 15 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 8,152 cars (39.7 percent) and metallic ores increased by 4,010 cars (31.7 percent). Eleven of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 20 totaled 105,286 trailers and/or containers, 6.2 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 38 weeks of the year was 3,588,936 trailers and/or containers, up 9.2 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 09/27/86:

	Loadings in Week ended September 27, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,661	I	8,152	39.7	D	682	2.3
Other farm products	3,518	I	46	1.3	D	167	4.5
Metallic ores	16,665	I	4,010	31.7	I	2,266	15.7
Coal	114,816	D	3,757	3.2	D	529	0.5
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,131	I	896	6.3	D	140	0.9
Nonmetallic minerals	8,356	D	3,774	31.1	D	1,490	15.1
Grain mill products	10,448	D	254	2.4	D	363	3.4
Food and kindred products	11,265	D	457	3.9	I	71	0.6
Primary forest products	10,497	D	504	4.6	D	37	0.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,430	I	681	8.8	I	345	4.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,037	D	2,006	14.3	D	460	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	24,298	D	717	2.9	D	838	3.3
Petroleum products	4,544	D	291	6.0	I	105	2.4
Stone, clay and glass products	10,913	D	73	0.7	I	200	1.9
Coke	3,939	D	376	8.7	I	141	3.7
Metals and products	8,055	D	798	9.0	I	814	11.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,390	D	2,664	11.6	I	114	0.6
Waste and scrap materials	7,929	D	1,333	14.4	D	268	3.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,650	D	3,293	47.4	I	262	7.7
All other carloads	72,900	I	6,616	10.0	D	164	0.2
LCL traffic	120	D	34	22.1	I	9	8.1
Total Cars Loaded	396,562	I	70	0.0	D	811	0.2
Corresponding week of 1985	396,492						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (39 weeks)	14,552,885	14,655,805	D 0.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
38 Weeks ended September 20	641.7	642.9	D 0.2
Week ended September 27	17.7	16.7	I 5.8
39 Weeks cumulative	659.4	659.6	D 0.0

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